

THE BATTLE SHIP VIRGINIA.

and heavy docking keels are fitted.

It is proposed to make all of the vessels

modation of one flag officer, one command-ing officer, one chief of staff, nineteen ward-

Use of Electricity.

The applications of electricity on board

are very much wider than in the case of

any other battle ships in existence, with

the possible exception of the Kearsarge

and Kentucky. All of the turrets have

electrical turning gear, and the ammuni-

tion hoists, blowers to the turrets and gen-

eral ventilation, the general workshop, and practically all of the auxiliaries, outside of the engineers' department and excepting

high standard; the hospital quarters airy

electrically driven; and the living quarters are carefully protected by insulation from

cold in winter and excessive heat in sum-mer. Take it all in all, the designs of the

Virginia class embody the latest develop-ments in naval architecture, and these ves-

sels will prove most formidable additions

to the fighting strength of the navy.

The Virginia will be launched at the ship yard of the Newport News Shipbuilding

ART NOTES.

Mr. Lucien Powell is engaged at pres-

ent upon a large and interesting work-

hallway of the Colorado building at St.

Louis. They are about twenty feet in

length and not over four in height at

the top of the arc, and both are to be

given over to a presentation of charac-

teristic Colorado scenery. On one is pic-

tured Pike's Peak and the surrounding

country, and on the other is shown a

panoramic view of the town of Ouray

pose of mural decoration these are rather

scarcely more than laid in, but the sec-

ond, setting forth the impressively beau-

tiful environment of the little mining

town, is far enough on toward comple-tion to give an idea of the final result. In

the foreground, as though viewed from a height, the little, low-roofed village is

seen stretched out on a plain, in the shadow of the great mountain range— beyond are the foot hills, green but un-wooded, on the other side of which rise

the precipitous cliffs of the treasure-stored mountains. Mr. Powell has so ar-

ranged his composition that prominence of position has been given to a splendidly

colorful red sand-stone mountain which stands nearest the town, and from which

the range grades off in color and appar-ently diminishes in height both to the

right and left. To the right the great

peaks grow bluer and grayer, and to the left, where one catches a glimpse down a long defile, they are more chalky and

less insistent. Giant pines have been used

singly and in groups in the foreground with good effect, and the scheme of the

whole, both in general composition and color, is very pleasing. Mr. Powell is

fests in his pictures a strong feeling for

decoration, which peculiarly fits him for the execution of such work as this. He

knows better than many how to combine

deal in a pictorial manner with scenic

effects, and there seems every reason to believe that in these mural paintings he

Mr. Carl Gutherz, who represented Wash-

ington on the international jury for the St.

Louis exposition that recently met in Phil-

adelphia, is painting a picture which,

though pathetic, will probably prove of

Promised ma Misses I'd Bring Him Home."

and represents a wounded negro carrying

his young master's body off the field of

battle-a scene not uncommon in the civil

war. In the foreground the figure of the

faithful servant with his lifeless burden

looms up against a gray scene of confusion

and a fire-lit sky. A day of fierce conflict

is over; troops are hurrying hither and

and dying, but from the mass comes the

wounded black man striving to fulfill the

promise made to his white mistress. This

is the kind of sentiment which appeals to the gallery, but it is a deeper and more

thoughtful meaning which Mr. Gutherz would have read into his picture. It is at

the root of the negro problem at which it

is purposed to strike, suggesting, as it does, the inborn faithfulness of the negro

vitude. It is, like all of Mr. Gutherz's paintings, a deeply thoughtful work, and

may be truly said to possess a potent lit-

Miss Suzanne Gutherz has met with very

gratifying and well-deserved success in her

poster work, having had several of her

designs attractively brought out by leading

commercial firms within the past few

months. There is a certain dash and spirit

about all her work which is bound to make

it attractive, but behind this are sterling

qualities which make it at the same time

of real artistic value. Lately she has made

which is specially interesting and meritori-

ous, presenting a more genuine type of the

wholesome American girl than has yet ap-

parently been discovered. She has also pictured in poster style, with colored cray-

little maid reading a magazine, a fair

young kindergartener, and a college man, besides getting together in charming form

Miss Hattle E. Burdette has just finished

an excellent miniature of Mrs. Allan C.

Clark of this city. It pictures its subject

wearing a gray high-necked gown and

lescent gray background, and shows in its

ons and charcoal on gray paper, a winso

a dainty little volume containing prints of her other works for the benefit of

a certain well-known publisher.

race and yet-to-be-learned nobility in

erary as well as an artistic value

brilliant colors harmoniously, and how to

primarily a colorist, but he also

will be represented at his best.

the painting of two lunettes for the main

Company next Tuesday.

# NEWEST BATTLE SHIP

The Virginia is a Model of room officers, ten junior officers, eight warrant officers and 772 crew, including 69 marines, making a grand total of 812. Both Her Class.

IS HEAVILY ARMORED

TO BE LAUNCHED NEXT WEEK AT NEWPORT NEWS.

Will Have a Speed of at Least Nineteen Knots - Her Powerful Batteries.

Congress, in March, 1899, appropriated money for three sea-going coast-line battle ships, carrying the heaviest armor and in this class of vessels all of the latest most powerful armament for vessels of approved equipment will be provided for their class, and provided for two more by accommodation of the officers and crew, the act of June 7, 1900.

The bureau of construction and repair fully carried out the evident purpose of Congress, for the design of the Virginia and class-represents five most powerful

Of the five vessels appropriated for three were required to be sheathed and coppered and two without sheathing. Immediately after being contracted for, however, the Navy Department took that question under consideration and decided to omit all outside sheathing and coppering, so that each vessel of the class is now a counterpart of the other, except for minor modifications incident to construction.

The general dimensions and chief characteristics of these vessels are: Length or load water line, 435 feet; breadth, extreme, at load water line, 76 feet 2½ inches; trial displacement, about 14,948 tons; mean draft at trial displacement, about 23 feet ! inches; greatest draft, full load, about 26

In the 15,000 tons represented in the Virginia and her sister ships the many anagonistic qualities essential to a perfect fighting machine have been compromised and incorporated in proportion which experience seems to have pointed out as the most desirable and efficient. To begin with, these battle ships will have a speed of at least 19 knots, which compares most favorably with any battle ships under construction abroad, as well as with any in the projected stage.

Powerful Engines.

The Virginia will be propelled at this unusual themes, but the artist has handled high speed by twin screws, driven by two them in a way that makes them both four-cylinder, triple-expansion engines of suitable and attractive. The first, repreabout 19,000 indicated horse power, having senting the Pike's Peak region, is as yet a stroke of four feet, running, under conditions of maximum speed at about 120 revolutions per minute. The steam necessary to this power will be supplied at a pressure of 250 pounds per square inch by twenty-four Niclausse water-tube boilers, placed four in each of six independent, water-tight compartments.

The Virginia was carry four 12-inch guns, forty calibers in length, mounted by pairs in balanced turrets, one turret being located forward of the superstructure and the other aft, and each having a total arc train of 270 degrees. Of the eight 8-inch guns, 45 calibers in length, which will be carried on this vessel, four will be mounted by pairs in turrets, superposed upon the 12-inch turrets above mentioned, and four in two broadside turrets slightly forward of amidships, the amidship turrets having a total arc of train of 180 degrees. In the Virginia there will be a broadside battery on the gun deck of twelve 6-inch rapid-fire guns, fifty calibers in length, mounted six on each side, each with a total arc of train of 121 degrees. The secondary battery will consist of twelve 3-inch fifty caliber rapidfire guns, twelve 3-pound semi-automatic, eight 1-pound heavy automatic, two 30caliber machine guns and six 30-caliber Colt automatic guns, all mounted in commanding positions and having large arcs of fire. The Virginia will also be fitted with submerged torpedo tubes.

The magazines will be specially fitted to enable her to carry, with absolute safety in all climates, the new smokeless powder. Provision will be made in the magazines for the stowage of at least sixty rounds for each of the 12-inch guns, 125 rounds for each of the 8-inch guns, 200 rounds for each of the 6-inch guns, 300 rounds for each of the 3-inch guns and a plentiful supply of ammunition for the smaller guns

## Heavy Armor.

So much for the vessel's offensive quali-. . . To make her defensive qualities proportionately great she will be provided with a complete waterline belt of armor, 8 feet In width amidships, 11 inches thick at the top and 8 inches at the bottom, tapering to a uniform thickness of 4 inches at the ends

belt extending over about 245 feet of her lergth of a uniform thickness of 6 inches, rising from the top of the main belt to the upper or main deck, and joined at its after a 6-inch armored bulkhead and having at inches thickness extending from side to side, thus forming a citadel or redoubt, within which the 6-inch guns will be mounted. Within this citadel or redoubt, and extending from the forward turnet to the after turret, light armor 1½ inches and 2½ inches in thickness will form subdivisions of the gun inclosures, thoroughly protecting the gun's crews from flying splinters and fragments of bursting shells. The barbettes for the turrets of the 12-inch guns are to be 10 inches in thickness for that portion outside of the redoubt or citadel, reduced to 71/2 inches in thickness with-The turrets themselves will be protected by armor 12 inches in thickness. superposed or independent, be protected by 6 inches of armor, with 634-inch port plates, and their barbettes will be protected by similar armor. The conning tower and its shield will be 9 inches in thickness, and the armored tube 5 inches thick, will be of sufficient size to receive all voice pipes. wiring, &c. In addition to the conning tower there will be, aft, a second tower, known as the signal tower, which will be constructed of 5-inch armor. From the bot- which is specially interesting and meritoritom of the water-line armor belt there will rise a curved turtle-backed nickel-steel protective deck 1½ inches thick on the flat and 3 inches thick on the sloping sides, to make assurance doubly sure that no projectile of the enemy finds its way into the vitals of the ship. As an additional protection to stability, a cofferdam belt, 3 feet in thick-ness and packed to a density of 8 pounds to the cubic foot, will be worked along the two sides above the protective deck for the

#### Little Wood Used.

The material of construction is the high quality of steel which has entered into all the vessels of our navy. The main, or upper deck, in addition to being built of steel, will be the only one upon which wood | white fur-edged opera cape, against an opais to be laid. The lower decks will all be of steel, covered with linoleum. The use of wood in the construction of this vessel will be limited even more strictly than it has been in the later battle ships, and all wccdwork above the protective deck, except is broad and free. In every way it con-

forms to the ideal requirements of a minia-ture, and as a painting, regardless of size, it is worthy of high praise.

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The Society of Washington Artists' exhibition in the hemicycle of the Corcoran Gallery is still attracting considerable attention, though perhaps less than it deserves. For the benefit and convenience of those whose daytime hours are occupied special arrangements have been made by which the exhibition is open free to the public on Monday and Wednesday evenings. This and the architects' exhibition, which is also well worth seeing, will continue until

On April 11, 12 and 13 the "Merrie Fakirs" of the Corcoran School will hold in the old sculpture class room an exhibition of fakes of the works of art in the so clety's exhibition in the hemicycle, which on the evening of the 13th will be auctioned off to the highest bidders. The New York Art League's fake exhibition of the Society of American Artists' show is a thing of considerable consequence, and the witty little displays made here formerly by the deck plank, will be fireproofed. Bilge keels local art league's students were so exceedingly clever that they were well worth remembering and have been sincerely missed. What this new organization will bring forth is merely surmise, but as doubtless some of the old fakirs are among the orof this class flagships, and to do this it is necessary to make provision for the accomganizers, and there is unquestionably wit and merriment of the best kind in abundance among the student classes, the result may reasonably be awaited with interest officers and crew will have wash rooms, bath rooms and other similar conveniences, such as will place the comfort and healthfulness of these vessels very high in the and confidence in its smile-provoking char-

> The regular monthly art talk for April will be given in the lecture room in the basement of the Corcoran School on Monday afternoon, at 4:15, by Mr. James Henry Moser. His subject, which will be "Outdoor Sketching," is specially timely, the harvest season for such work being at hand, and no doubt the lecture will prove both entertaining and instructive. These talks are open to the students of the school and others specially interested, and they have met with very gratifying appreciation

of the engineers' department and excepting capstan and steering gear, are to be electrically driven. To provide for the power required for these purposes the e will be installed eight engines and dynamos, mounted on combination bed-plates, two having a rated output of 1,250 amperes at 123 volts, and six with 625 amperes at 125 In the window of the Bradbury Piano Company has been placed the well-known portrait of the late President McKinley, by Mr. William T. Matthews. This portrait was painted from life, it will be remembered. It was commenced when Mr. McKinley was governor of Ohio and retouched and the ventilation and drainage being of a finally completed after he became President of the United States. It is generally considered the most likelife portrait of the and commodious; the bakery and galleys, with their issuing rooms and refrigerating plant, having been worked out with a view to thorough efficiency; laundry and drying rooms are fitted with the latest machinery. subject that has ever been painted, and it was this work that secured for Mr. Matthews a commission from the trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art to paint Mr. McKinley's portrait for that institution. The friends alike of the artist and Mr. Mc-Kinley's family think this portrait ought to be owned by the government.

This year, for the first time, the Pennsylvania Academy debarred water colors and pastels from its regular annual exhibition, insisting upon the desirability of restricting the mediums exhibited, and declaring its intention of arranging a special spring exhibition for the excluded work. On Saturday of last week this second exhibition, held in conjunction with the Philadelphia Water Color Club, opened to the public, and was found to be a most noteworthy arfair, the most notable of its kind probably ever held in Philadelphia. A number of our local artists are represented in this exhibition, and among them both Mr. and Mrs. Child have come in for a specially large measure of praise, Mrs. Child's pastel portrait study of "Patricia" has been hung in the main gallery with the pictures of honor, and has been reproduced by two of the leading Philadelphia papers in connection with their reviews of the exhibition.
Of it the Ledger says: "The most beautiful and the mountains in which are situated Mr. Walsh's famous mines. For the purportrait, and one which, with that by Mr. Anschutz, exemplifies so well the great length we have come in the use of pastel, is called "Patricia," and is by Jane Bridgham Child. It is a regal piece of work, decorative in style and firm and entirely effective in treatment—a picture which immediately attracts the eye and holds the attention. While it has great beauty, it has also great strength."

> Of Mr. Child's painting the same writer remarks: "A very lovely picture, low in tone, is by R. C. Child. It represents some salt meadows and an inlet. The sky and water are gray, and the dark green of the marsh grass has been portrayed with an unusual sentiment and a display of poetic feeling." Both of these pictures were shown Washington Water Color Club's exhibition last fall.

> In New York interest is centered in the Society of American Artists' annual exhibition, which opened with a private view on March 22. The work of chief note in this exhibition is Mr. Sargent's portrait of the Misses Hunter of England, which was also given the place of honor in the Pennsylva-'nia Academy's recent exhibition. Of next importance to this is said to be the last family group painted by George de Forrest Brush, which has been referred to as "a holy family without haloes." A portrait and some landscapes by Edward Steichen, the photo secessionist, have been highly spoken of, and a picture by S. J. Woolf called "The Chemist," has been generally commended. As a whole, however, the ex-hibition, seems not to be considered out of the ordinary or of special significance.

Thomas Dewing's single contribution to the exhibition of the Ten American Painters, recently held at Durand-Ruel's in New York, was a decoration painted on the great popular interest. It is called "I lid of a piano, recently made for the White House, which, according to one well-known critic, is "a host in itself-one of those rare works of art which owes its genesis to meeting of just the right man with just the right opportunity." It represents Columbia and the nine Muses in a design suited to the space it fills, and is said to be rhyth mical in both line and color.

The Municipal Art Society of New York thither; the ground is strewn with the dead is at present holding an exhibition in the National Arts Club of that city, which is said to plainly demonstrate the purposes of that and kindred organizations. In this exhibition rational suggestions are made in exhibition rational suggestions are made in a form which the public can understand, for bettering, both from a standpoint of comfort and beauty, the city of New York, such, for istance, as the widening of certain streets, the rearrangement of parks, providing a double driveway along the Hudson overlooking the piers, and so on. Designs for important new buildings, pro-posed bridges, recreation piers, park en-trances and monuments are also shown, to-gether with photographs of the best work of the same character in progress in other

> The Whistler memorial exhibition in Boston is still attracting wide attention, an average of eight hundred persons visiting the Copley galleries each day. It is reported that thirty Wall street brokers went over to Boston in a body last week to see the exhibition, but whether this portends a corner on Whistlers, or signified the civilization of the exchange has not been dis-

As a number of the local art students were members of the party which Mr. William M. Chase took to Holland last summer it will probably be of interest to know that he purposes to conduct a similar class in England this year. The class, limited to forty persons, will sail June 14 on the steamer Potsdam, and from the time of arrival until July 27 Mr. Chase will devote two days a week to gallery visiting and criticism in London.

## Back-Hair Secrets.

the London King. A woman will confide a secret that will send a man to the gallows with a light-

How Easter is Celebrated in the Two Countries.

A STRIKING CONTRAST

IN ONE IT IS THE CHERRY BLOS-SOM FESTIVAL,

While in the Other Religious Sentiment Plays the Principal Part-Music and Feasting.

Written for The Evening Star.

There is an incongruous mixture of mourning and festivity in the two eastern countries which are occupying the attention of the world. Both Japan and Russia engaged in deadly conflict, are today deeply engrossed-Japan in the actual festivities. and Russia in the preparations which wel-

come the Eastertide. By reaching Japan just at the beginning of spring you will find yourself in the midst of the native Easter season, which, in reality, is the cherry blossom festival; because it comes at the time that Easter is celebrated in the western countries, it is given that name.

Two weeks afterward the great feast is being kept in Russia, not, however, with flowers, as in the mikado's kingdom, but with vodka, the inspiration and curse of the Russian soldier and peasant. During Eastertide there will be no indica-tion in either country of the war cloud that

hangs over them, everything and every one will breathe only the joyousness of the Nowhere else in the world outside these two nations is the feast of the Resurrec-tion of Christ observed with such elaborate decorations and ceremonies, and yet, in spite of this fact and of their comparatively close proximity, nothing could be more dif-ferent than the ways in which the two keep

A Dazzling Sight.

The dawn of Easter in Japan is a dazzling and fascinating sight even to an American, used as he is to the great display of flowers and bright and dainty costumes that come out on that day in all the cities in the United States to welcome the season.

The Japanese are like a lot of happy school children let out to play, happy in their religious flower festival. None of he church ceremonies have any part in heir celebration, and although the cherry festival commemorates the resurrection, it is the resurrection of the fruits and flowers a er six months of death—a truly pagan fete.

...ll Japan rejoices; the children have a day set apart for their special delectation and the grown people do little but seek to make the young people happy. Along the roadways, inch deep with fallen cherry petale, the children draw immense movabl temples. Sometimes more than a hundred little girls, dressed in gorgeous hues, are in line, pulling on the ropes attached to these c..ariots, on which the boys, dressed in blue and white togas, ride and play on their musical instruments, while the cleverest of their number, in masked faces, render relig.ous dramas on the elevated platform in tront of the chariot.

The streets are choked with thousands of grown people, who give up the day to witnessing these processions, and as the chariot and the children pass down a carpeted avenue of cherry trees and the gentle spring breeze blows, a constant shower of pink perfumed snow falls from the cherry trees and everything becomes hazy in the entrancing mist of a pink snowstorm of soft petals. All nature seems to take part in this Easter festival of the Japanese children.

Cherry-Blossom Sunday.

"Cherry-blossom Sunday" at Uyeno Park in Tokyo is one of the prettiest sights in all Japan. The avenue of cherry trees going up from the town forms an exquisite arch of pink boughs, under which the people throng purely on pleasure bent.

The tea houses have spread their best red blankets on the matted plaforms, which serve for seat and table. Carriages and jinrikishas roll by, their occupants dressed in their best, the women in exquisitely deli-cate crepes, because it is the time of spring and flowers, and the light and dainty colors are most appropriate. Under the trees are light-hearted picnic parties seated on their blankets, and lunching on rice sandwiches. A group of young men, each carrying a branch of cherry blossoms on his shoulder, and at his belt a saki bottle, come strolling gaily along, stopping at the wine shops on their way to have their bettles filled and refilled, until they are gloriously drunkwhen they will be quickly and quietly de-spatched in kurumas to their several homes. Restraint is thrown aside during "cherry time," and at Mukojima, where a double avenue of cherry trees, the most magnificent display of these lovely blossoms in Tokyo, stretches along the far bank of the Sumida river beside the road, the wildest carnival reigns. Mummers in all sorts of fantastic costumes, in which red and white. the colors of spring and happiness, predominate, dance in and out among the tea houses that stand along the bank under the trees. The river is gay with roofed pleasure boats, and the sound of the geisha's samisen is added to the general clan or of rejoicing and merrymaking.

In Striking Contrast.

The festival which welcomes Easter two weeks later in Russia is, in contrast with that of the Japs, decidedly tawdry and heavy, but to the people of the country it is the most brilliant and joyous time of the whole year.

After existing for seven long weeks on bitter salads and mushroom broth, the Russian penitent greets Easter with an enthu-siasm that is not feigned. After Lent is passed the reaction at the coming of Eastertide is like the transformation scene in the pantomime from sadness and want to joy

Right up to Easter eve the penitence and prayer have lasted, but soon the half-staryed people commence to show signs of making up for lost time. Booths containing ev-

There is more business transacted within a few hours than has been done for an entire week. Every one is buying, and buying in large quantities. Those who are too poor to purchase will not go without. The purse strings of the rich are let loose at this season, and one learns how really generous the rich Russian can be to his poorer neighbor.

Two Necessities. Every household must have two things, whatever else it may lack. One is the Easter plg, the other is the Easter treean institution similar to that of the occi-dental Christmas, a small fir sapling decorated with paper angels, fruits, artificial flowers and birds, sweets and toys.

But with all this plenty around, the fast must not be broken until Easter morning, so when all the preparations are made, the

tired and hungry fasters retire to bed, while the bells ring cheerily from the

mosques, under the light of the Easter Many there are, however, who do not go to bed at all on Easter eve. There are the young and strong or the exceptionally vout, who attend the midnight mass, whi lasts until 3 o'clock Easter morning. There, as Easter morn breaks, the glorious Easter as Easter morn breaks, the glorious Easter hymn is sung—as it is in every other Christian church over the world, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today," the long fast is over and every one joins in the joyful strains.

At the conclusion of the hymn, the first Easter mass is performed—a magnificent service, conducted with all the gorgeous ceremonial of the Greek Church, with the wonderful robes of the priests, the beautiful painted walls and pictures, and the jeweled crosses and symbols—making a grand scene. Before the dawn of Easter the churches are in semi-darkness, but at the moment the hymn is started thousands of lights blaze out with fine effect.

A Curious Custom.

the blessing of the church, and then fol-lows a very cursus and snear austom, which has been observed eince the founda-tior of the Greek Church.

On Easter eve everyone brings with him to the church the food which is intended, for the feast on Easter day. The well-to-do come with huge hams and other sub-stantial viands, baskets full of eggs aru-seen, butter and other useful provisions, as well as the greater luxuries. Even the poorest have something to bring, and all are carried by the owners, that they may be blessed by the priests and so bring a blessing on those who partake of them at the Easter festival. The czar follows the custom, and every bit of the food which is to be eaten in the palace receives the bene-diction of the priests.

diction of the priests.

As the breakfast is to be a sumptuous one many spend the palance of the night in pre-paring it. This meal consists of young roast pig, veal, ham, lamb, curdled cream and red eggs, fancy bread, salt cucumbers, and red eggs, fancy bread, salt cucumbers, cabbage, dried herrings, sturgeon, turbot, steret, all kinds of groceries, sweetmeats and fruits. The table is left spread for several days, so that all comers to the house may enjoy its bounty.

To make the dwelling fit for the celebration of Easter it has been carefully cleaned throughout, and every one wears new clothes, even if they be cheap and tawdry and the result of home making.

Eggs of All Kinds.

Of course, eggs are presented by every one to every one else. They are of all kinds, according to the means of the giver, Some are of sugar or chocolate, others of silver or gilt, with pretty articles of jewelry inside them; or almonds, raisins or confections; or fine crystal eggs, containing creams, jellies, pastries, truits and game.

Flowers, except of the artificial kind, are very scarce and meager, unless Easter happens to come late, then there is an attempt

to make a large floral display.

The Easter breakfast is a prelude to three or four days' undiluted enjoyment—or, more properly speaking, rejoicing, for there is an undercurrent of religious sentiment running all through the celebration of the Russion Easter festival.

There are visiting and feasting and musieverywhere in the air. Somewhere in the city there is a big fair being held, for one sees individuals laden down with purchases—rugs from Bokhara or silks from Samarcand, joint results of the caravan and the new Transcaspian railway.

Noisy Merrymaking.

The towns are merry, and the sober Russian is for the once a very talkative and witty fellow. The vodka is stimulating his brain and lifting him out of his everyday servility and commonplaceness. The streets are a mass of confusion, color and unique contrast and filled with the noise of merrymaking.

Crowds of Russians from the northern provinces salute each other with the in-evitable "Christ has risen," to which is given the solemn reply, "Verily, has He

At the court it is one of the most elab-orate social events of the year. Immediately on the conclusion of the midnight service the czar and czarina hold a grand court, one of the largest in the year, at which everyone in the right position ap-pears, the state and court officials, as well as all the officers of the guard regiments. It is the custom at this reception for everyone to kiss the czar and czarina, kisses being interchanged among the company present. It is a long, monotonous ceremony and most exhausting, coming as it does on top of the fasting, but people and nations have different ideas as to expressing their

oy.

Everyone about the court receives a present from the czar in the shape of an very often of great artistic value. The are, as a rule, made of china, and are filled with bonbons or some article of jewelry; they are of great beauty, and thousands are distributed by their maiesties, no gifts being more valued these of Easter.

#### An Ancient Locomotive. From the Scientific American.

An interesting railroad relic, reminiscent of the first days of the steam locomotive, has been discovered in the north of England. The Liverpool and Manchester Railroad Company, the first public road constructed, it will be remembered, inaugurated a competition in the latter part of the 20's of the past century for a locomotive, in which Stephenson and other inventors participated. Three engines-the "Rocket," by Stephenson; the "Sans Pareil," by Hack-worth, and the "Novelty," by Braithwaite and Ericsson, respectively—participated in the trials that were carried out in 1830. As is well known, Stephenson's "Rocket" secured the award of \$2,500, which was oftaining a speed of twenty-nine miles per hour. The "Sans Parell" was second with a speed of twenty-three miles per hour. trials owing to the joints of the boiler giv-ing way when the locomotive had traveled only three miles. Both the "Rocket" and the "Sans Parell" are now preserved in the South Kensington Mureum, but the "Nov mysteriously disappeared and was never found again until quite recently. It appears that Ericsson was so mortified by the failure of his conception that he left it with his friend, Mr. Melling, who possessed engineering works located upon a space adjoining the Rainhill station. These works were subsequently dismantled and the premises were occupied by the Rainhill Gas and Water Company. The "Novelty" was thus lost sight of, but it has now been recognized working as a stationary engine, the wheels having been removed for this purpose and its identity thus somewhat dis-guised. Attempts are to be made to secure

After the War.

this third premier locomotive, and to place

it alongside of its two contemporaries in

the South Kensington Museum.

The Jap had triumphed. The baffled Muscovite had asked for terms. After some negotiation the status of Manchuria and Korea had been agreed upon. "But." said the Japanese diplomats, "there must be an indemnity."

"How much?" said the Russians. "Ten thousand million yen." Preposterous!" said the emissaries of

the czar. "We are willing to pay for the cost of the war, but we will die in the last ditch before we will allow you to stick us with the cost of the ante-bellum station-

ery!"
Nevertheless, Japan being firm, the erstwhile haughty Slav was forced to accept her terms.

The Mission of the Club. From McClure's Magazine.

A good club is the last freehold of un trammeled man. In the best of them it is good manners to have no manners; subject only to your neighbor's similar right to rudeness or to privacy. The smiles put on for women, the solemn faces for the world, the mask of purpose, the rouge and powder of joy—all may here, with one's coat and hat, be laid aside. For a club is either the best of company or the most complete of solitudes; it is the stronghold of individualism.

His Mind on the Market. From the Detroit Free Press.

"What have you there?" asked the mag nate of his accomplished daughter. "A recent compilation of selected quotations. It's fine." "Heavens! And I overlooked it. Turn to 8 and see how steel preferred is quoted."

Couldn't Be Both. From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

"He's an egotist of the worst kind," said the first actor, speaking of another: "he's else in his profession.' "Considering that determination," re-marked Snappey, "how can he be an

## A New Experience.

"Why did the tenants want to lynch the uperintendent of the fire department?" "He put out the fire when the flat was ecoming warm for the first time."

"I trust," said the kind-hearted old lady as she handed the tramp a dime, "that you will not spend this for alcohol." will not spend this for alcohol."

"None uv dat fer me, ma'am," replied the hobo. "Long ez I ain't got er cast iron stummick I'll stick to oeer."—Chicago what you say, please."

"The mode is subtle—the young lady had in the subtle young lady had in the young lady had in the subtle young lady had in the yo



BYNOPSIS.

Druce is invited to spend a week with his friend, Geo Rowland, owner of a famous old helroom in the shape of a magnificent pearl necklace. Rowland is about to be married to Antonia Ripley, a berutiful girl about whom little is known, but who persistently refuses to appear in evening dress. She goes to see Mmc. Sara. Druce tells Vandeleur of the visit. He decides that Mmc. Sara is trying to gain possession of the famous pearls. Miss Ripley admits to Druce that her objection to wearing evening dress comes from the presence of a large mole on her neck, which mole Mmc. Sara has removed, leaving her neck bandaged. Vandeleur and Mmc. Sara are invited to a ball at Rowland's.

Lete in the amount of the same and the same are invited to a ball at Rowland's.

he was his brightest self, courteous to

Late that night as I was preparing to go

that woman I had my suspicions. I was in

town today making some very interesting

inquiries. I am primed now on every point.

however black appearance may be the little bride is safe and so are the pearls."

He left me without waiting for my reply

The next day passed and the next. I seemd to live on tenterbooks. Little An-

tonia was gay and bright like a bird. Mad-ame's invitation had been extended by Lady

Kennedy at Rowland's command to the day after the ball. Little Antonia skipped

More and more guests arrived—the days lew on wings, the evenings were lively.

Madame was a power in herself. Vande-leur was another. These two, sworn foes at heart, aided and abetted each other to

when she heard it.
"I love her," said the girl.

Expect a denouement of a startling char acter very soon, but be sure of one thing-

every one and to Mme. Sara in particular.

quence to yourself unless this narrative is absolutely reliable." Late in the evening Vandeleur returned. He entered the house just before dinner. I She began to tremble, but continued: observed by the brightness of his eyes and

observed by the brightness of his eyes and the intense gravity of his manner that he was satisfied with himself. This in his penetrate. The patient was put under chlorogen form. The mole was removed. Alterward madame wrote something on her neck. The case was always a good sign. At dinner words were very small and neatly done—
they formed a cross on the young lady's
neck. A. erward I heard what they were."
"Repeat them."

to bed he entered my room without knock-"I can't. You will know in the moment of victory. "Well, Druce," he said, "it is all right." "I choose to know now. A detective from my division at Westminster comes here ear-ly tomorrow morning—he brings handcuffs— "All right!" I cried. "What do you "You will soon know. The moment I saw

"I will tell you," interrupted the woman. "Le words were these:
"I am the daughter of Paolo Gioletti,

"I am the daughter of Paolo Gioletti, who was executed for the murder of my nather June 20, 18—."
"How were the words written?"
"With nitrate of silver."
"Flend!" muttered Vandeleur.
He jumped up and began to pace the room. I had never seen his face so black with ungovernable rage.

with ungovernable rage.
"You know what this means?" he said at last to me. "Nitrate of silver eats into the flesh and is permanent. Once exposed to the light the case is hopeless, and the helpless child becomes her own execu-

The nurse looked up restlessly "The operation was performed in a room with a red light," she said, "and up to the present the words have not been seen. at heart, aided and abetted each other to Unless the young lady exposes her neck make things go brilliantly for the rest of to the blue rays of ordinary light they



the guests. Rowland was in the highest At last the evening before the ball came and went. Vandeleur's grand coup had not come off. I retired to bed as usual. The night was a stormy one — rain rattled against the window panes, the wind sighed and shuddered. I had just put out my candle and was about to seek forgetfulness in

leep when once again in his unceremonious fashion Vandeleur burst into my room. "I want you at once, Druce, in the room of Mme. Sara's servant. Get into your clothes as fast as you can and join

He left the room as abruptly as he had entered it. I hastily dressed, and with stealthy steps, in the dead of the night, to the accompaiment of the ever-increasing tempest, sought the room in question. I found it brightly lighted; Vandeleur pacing the floor as though he himself were the very spirit of the storm; and, most astonishing sight of all, the nurse whom Mme. Sara had brought to Rowland's Folly, and whose name I had never happened to hear, gagged and bound in a chair drawn

into the center of the room. "So I think that is all, nurse," said Van-deleur as I entered. "Pray take a chair, Druce. We quite understand each other, don't we, nurse? And the facts are wonderfully simple. Your name as entered in the archives of crime at Westminster is no as you have given out, Mary Jessop, Rebecca Curt. You escaped from Portland prison on the night of November 30, just a

year ago. You could not have managed your escape but for the connivance of the lady in whose service you are now. Your crime was forgery, with a strong and very daring attempt at poisoning. Your victim was a harmless invalid lady. Your knowledge of crime, therefore, is what may be called extensive. There are yet eleven years of your sentence to run. You have doubtless served Mme. Sara well-but perthe consequence if you refuse, for I explained that to you frankly and clearly be fore this gentleman came into the room Druce, will you oblige me-will you lock the door while I remove the gag from the prisoner's mouth?"

I hurried to obey. The woman breathed

more freely when the gag was removed. Her face was a swarthy red all over. Her crooked eyes favored us with many shifty

"Now, then, have the goodness to begin, Rebecca Curt," said Vandeleur. "Tell us everything you can." She swallowed hard and said:

"You have forced me—"
"We won't mind that part," interrupted Vandeleur. "The story, please, Mrs. Curt."

If looks could kill, Rebecca Curt would have killed Vandeleur then. He gave her

in return a gentle, bland glance and she started on her narrative. "Madame knows a secret about Antonia Ripley."
"Of what nature?" "It concerns her parentage."

"And that is-The woman hesitated and writhed. "The names of her parents, please," said Vandeleur in a voice cold as ice and hard

"Her father was Italian by birth."

"His name?

Count Gioletti. He was unhappily married and stabbed his English wife in an access of jealousy when Antonia was three

access of jealousy when Antonia was three years old. He was executed for the crime on the 20th of June, 18—. The child was adopted and taken out of the country by an English lady who was present in courther name was Mrs. Studley. Mme. Sara was also present. She was much interested in the trial, and had an interview afterward with Mrs. Studley. It was arranged that Antonia should be called by the surname of Ripley—the name of an old relative of Mrs. Studley's—and that her real tive of Mrs. Studley's-and that her real name and history were never to be told to "I understand," said Vandeleur, gently

This is of deep interest, is it not, Druce! I nodded, too much absorbed in watchin face of the woman to have time for "But now," continued Vandeleur, "there

are reasons why madame should change her mind with regard to keeping the matter a close secret. Is that not so, Mrs. Curt?" "Yes," said Mrs. Curt. "You will have the kindness to continue."

"Madame has an object—she blackmalls the signora. She wants to get the signora omplete y into her power."
"Indeed! Is she succeeding?"

"Yes." will then become neut."
"How has she managed? Be very careful will never come out."

never will be. In order to give her a chance to keep her deadly secret madam has had a large carbuncle of the deepest red cut a large carbuncle of the deepest red car and prepared. It is in the shape of a cross and is suspended to a fine gold, almost in-visible, thread. This the signora is to wear when in full evening dress. It will will be dusted with gum."

"But it cannot be madame's aim to hide the fateful words," said Vandeleur. are concealing something nurse.' Her face grew an ugly red. After a pause the following words came out with

great reluctance: "The young lady wears the carbuncle as

"Ah," said Vandeleur, "now we are be-ginning to see daylight. As a reward for "Madame wants something which the sig-

nora can give her. It is a case of exchange; the carbuncle which hides the fatal secret is given in exchange for that which the signora can transfer to madame. "I understand at last," said Vandeleur.

"Really, Druce, I feel myself privileged to say that of all the malevolent---" he broke off abruptly. "Never mind," he said, "we are keeping nurse. Nurse, you have answered all my questions with praise-worthy exactitude, but before you return to your well-earned slumbers I have one more piece of information to seek from you. Was it entirely by Miss Ripley's desire, or was it in any respect owing to Mme. Sara's in-stigations that the young lady is permitted to wear the pearl necklace on the night of You have, of course, nurse, the dance?

heard of the pearl necklace?" Rebecca Curt's face showed that she unacubtedly had. "I see you are acquainted with that most interesting story. Now, answer my question. The request to wear the necklace

tomorrow night was suggested by madame,

was it not?" "Ah, yes-yes!" cried the woman, carried out of herself by sudden excitement. "It was to that point all else tended-ail, all!" "Thank you, that will do. You under-stand that from this day you are absolutely in my service. As long as you serve me faithfully you are safe."

"I will do my best, sir," she replied, in a modest tone, her eyes seeking the ground. The moment we were alone Vandeleur turned to me.

"Things are simplifying themselves," he "I fail to understand," was my answer should say that complications, and

alarming ones, abound."
"Nevertheless, I see my way clear. Druce, it is not good for you to be so long out of bed, but in order that you may repose soundly when you return to you room I will tell you frankly what my mode of opera-tion will be tomorrow. The simplest plan would be to tell Rowland everything, but for various reasons that does not suit me. I take an interest in the little girl, and if she chooses to conceal her secret (at present, remember, she does not know it, but the poor child will certainly be told every-thing tomorrow) I don't intend to interfere. In the second place, I am anxious to lay a trap for madame. Now, two things are evident. Mme. Sara's object in coming here is to steal the pearls. Her plan is to terrify the little signora into giving them to her in order that the fiendish words written on the child's neck may not be seen. As the signora must wear a dress with a low neck tomorrow night, she can only hide the words by means of the red carbuncie. Mad-ame will only give her the carbuncie if she,

"I do." I answered, slowly. He drew himself up to his slender height and his eyes became full of suppressed

in exchange, gives madame the pearls. You

laughter.

"The child's neck has been injured with nitrate of silver. Nevertheless, until it is exposed to the blue rays of light the ominous, fiendish words will not appear on her white throat. Once they do appear they will be indelible. Now, listen! Madame, with all her cunning, forgot something. To the action of nitrate of silver there is an antidote. This is nothing more or less than our old friend cyanide of potassium. Tomorrow nurse, under my instructions, will take the little patient into a room carefully prepared with the hateful red light, and will bathe the neck just where the baleful words are written with a solution of cyanide of potassium. The nitrate of silver will then become neutralized and the letters will never come out."

(To be continued Monday.)